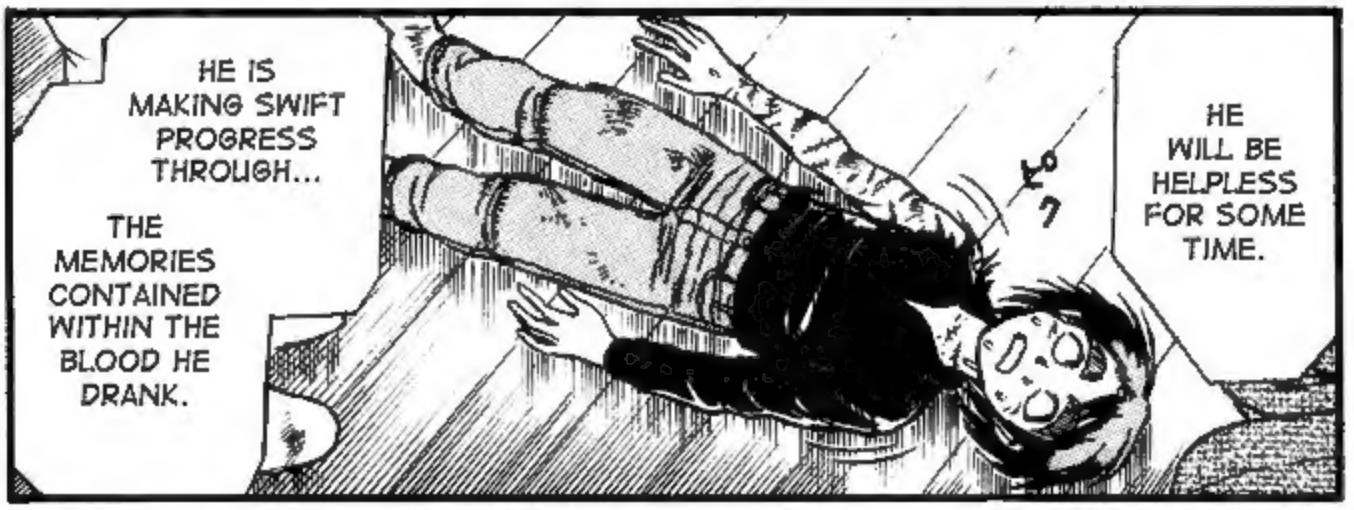
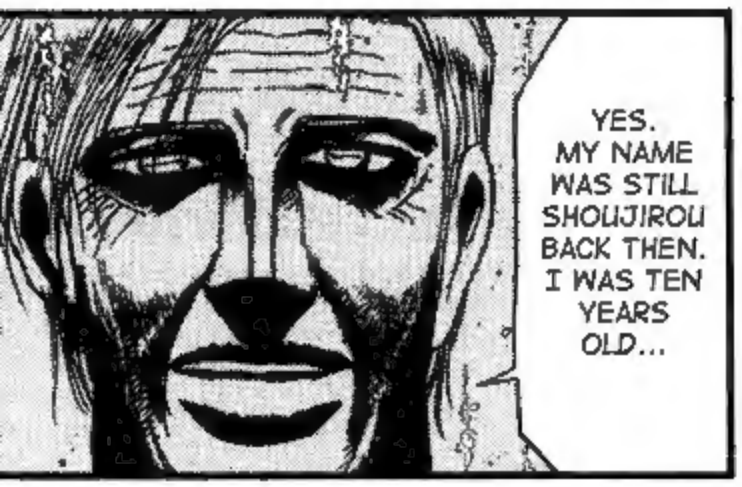
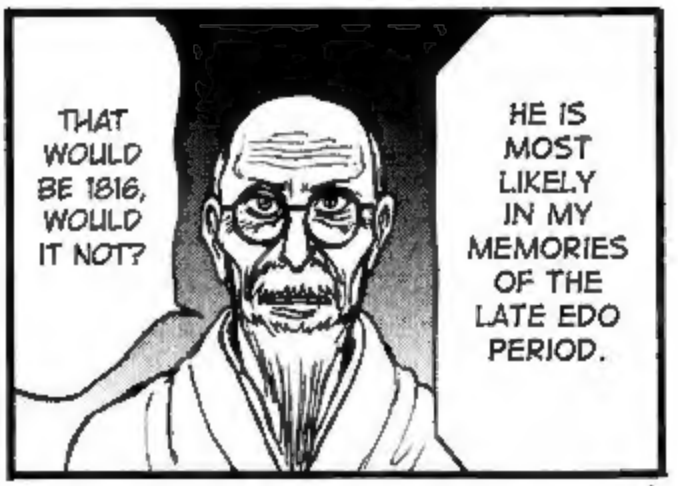

HE IS MAKING SWIFT PROGRESS THROUGH...
THE MEMORIES CONTAINED WITHIN THE BLOOD HE DRANK.
ドン
HE WILL BE HELPLESS FOR SOME TIME.



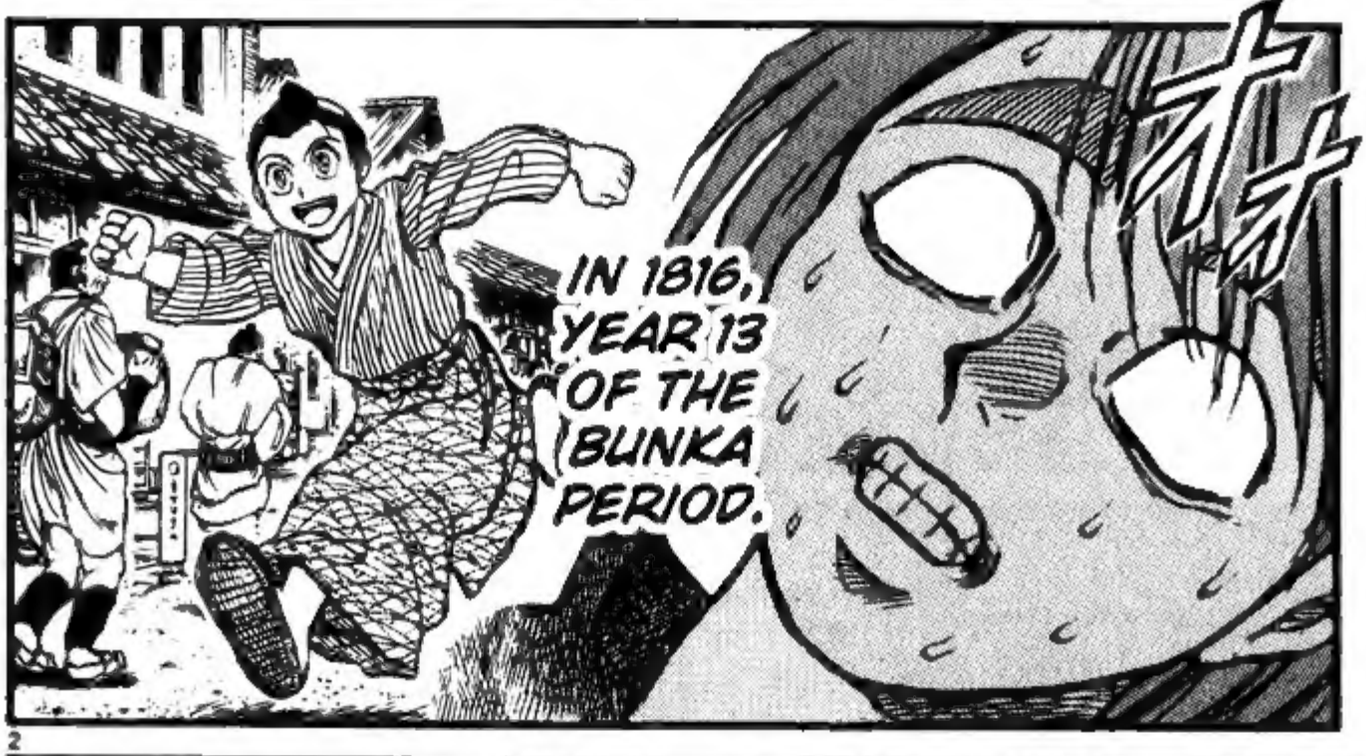


1

Act 10
Bai Yin and Shoujirou

GRANDPA'S CHILDHOOD NAME WAS SHOUJIROU.
AND I'M EXPERIENCING ALL THE SAME THINGS THAT BOY DID.

THE CITY OF NAGA-SAKI, MORE THAN 180 YEARS AGO.
THAT'S RIGHT. RIGHT NOW, I'M IN ...


IN 1816, YEAR 13 OF THE BUNKA PERIOD.

2

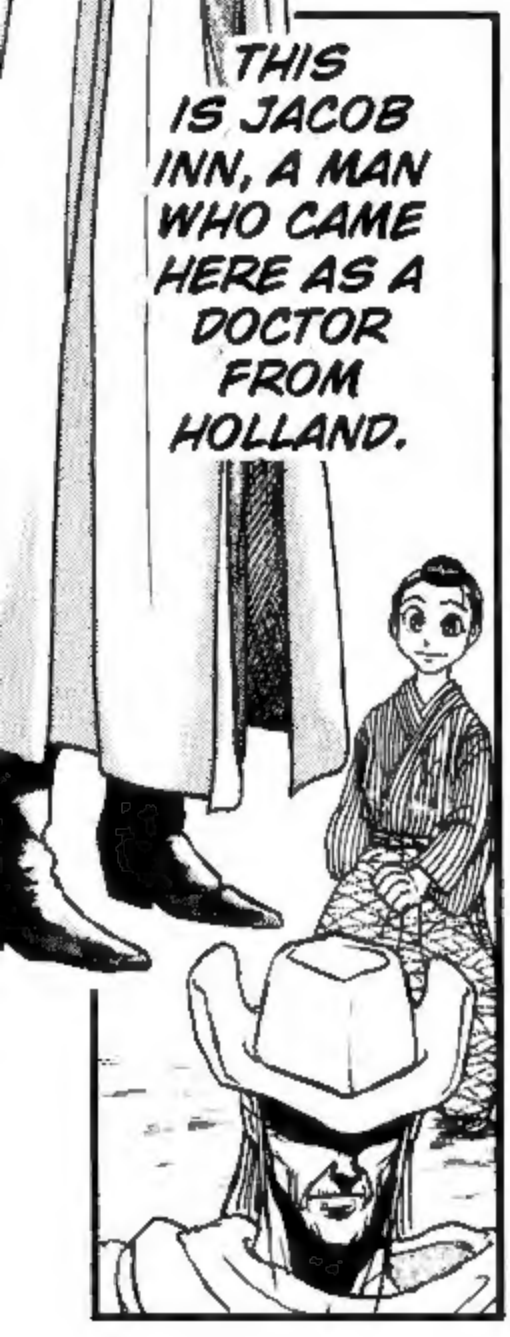
HAH.
HAH.
JAPAN IS IN AN AGE OF ISO-LATION-ISM.

ガラガラ
あれ!!

SALT! GETCHER SALT RIGHT HERE!

GOOD MORNING.
AND DEJIMA, HERE IN NAGASAKI, IS THE ONLY PLACE WHERE THE EXCHANGE OF GOODS IS PERMITTED.
THE ONLY FOREIGN TRADERS PERMITTED ARE THE DUTCH AND THE CHINESE.

3


THIS IS JACOB INN, A MAN WHO CAME HERE AS A DOCTOR FROM HOLLAND.

DEJIMA IS A FAN-SHAPED ARTIFICIAL ISLAND, CONNECTED TO THE SHORE BY A SINGLE BRIDGE. THE DUTCH BASICALLY CAN'T LEAVE IT AT ALL. AND THE JAPANESE ARE ALSO STRICTLY FORBIDDEN FROM ENTERING, EXCEPT FOR MERCHANTS.
LET'S BE OFF TO THE CLINIC.

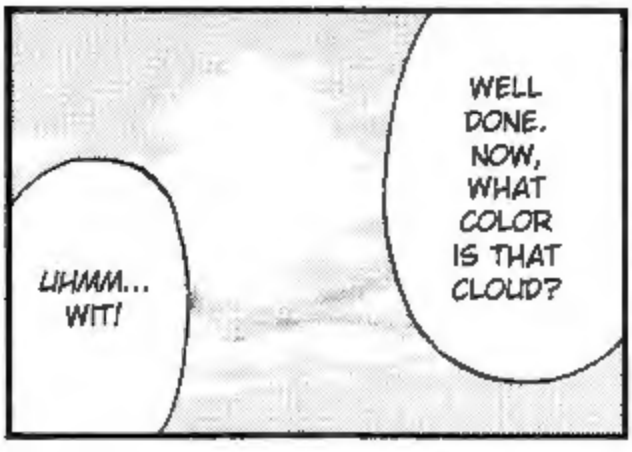
SHOU-
JIROU
...
YES,
SIR.

FOR SOME REASON, IN ALL THAT UPROAR THE OTHER DAY, HE TOOK AN INTEREST IN ME— IN SHOUJIROU. AND WE STARTED TALKING WITH ONE ANOTHER.
カリッ

JACOB-SAN WALKS BACK AND FORTH TO THE CLINIC SO HE CAN INSTRUCT JAPANESE DOCTORS IN HOW TO CARE FOR PATIENTS.
SOMEHOW OR ANOTHER, IT LOOKS LIKE I— LIKE SHOUJIROU HAS GOTTEN PERMISSION TO CARRY HIS BAG FOR HIM.

4

EHEHEH... GLAD I MANAGED T'REMEMBER ALL THAT, EVEN THOUGH I AIN'T TOO BRIGHT.
ZWART. VERY WELL REMEM-BERED, SHOUJI-ROU.


UHMM... WIT!
WELL DONE. NOW, WHAT COLOR IS THAT CLOUD?

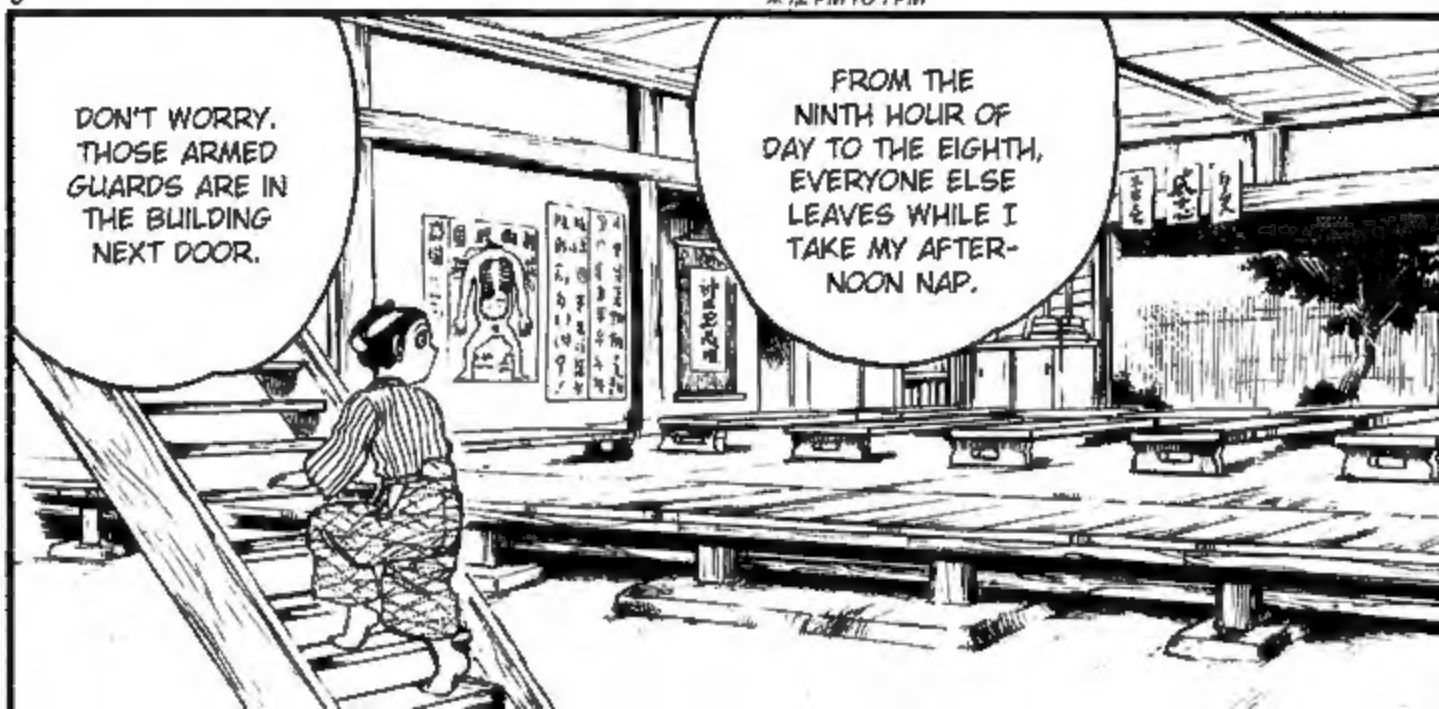
BLACK... BLACK IS... ZWARTSU, RIGHT?
AND WHAT COLOR ARE THE HAORI ON THOSE MEN OVER THERE?

B, BAY. C, SAY... D, DAY. E, AY...
A, AH.
X, IKS. Y, EH-EE.
ANNND, UH... Z, ZETT!

YOU ARE NOT STUPID AT ALL.
MIGHTY FUNNY HOW EVEN SOMEONE DUMB LIKE ME KIN REMEMBER THINGS JUST SO LONG'S YA TELL ME BIT BY BIT. LIKE STICKING PLASTER ONTO A WALL.
SFX: WHISPERING
WELL, I DO UNDER-STAND HOW THEY FEEL, BUT I GET TO FEELING A BIT CONS-TRICTED.
TALKING WITH YOU IS A GOOD WAY TO RELAX.
Look at 'em givin' me th' evil eye.
TH'OTHER DOCTORS WANNA TALK WITH YA, TOO.
HEY, ARE YA SURE THIS IS OKAY? YER ONLY SPEAKIN' WITH ME...
5
AT THE NINTH HOUR OF DAY, I BELIEVE IT'S CALLED HERE... TRY SNEAKING INTO THE CLINIC BY THE BACK ENTRANCE.
...I SEE. IN THAT CASE ...
THERE'S STILL A LOT MORE I WANNA LEARN FROM YA, SENSEI.
SFX: WHISPERING
* 12 NOON.
AWW, WE'RE HERE ALRE-ADY.
OH, SENSEI, YOU'VE ARRIVED!

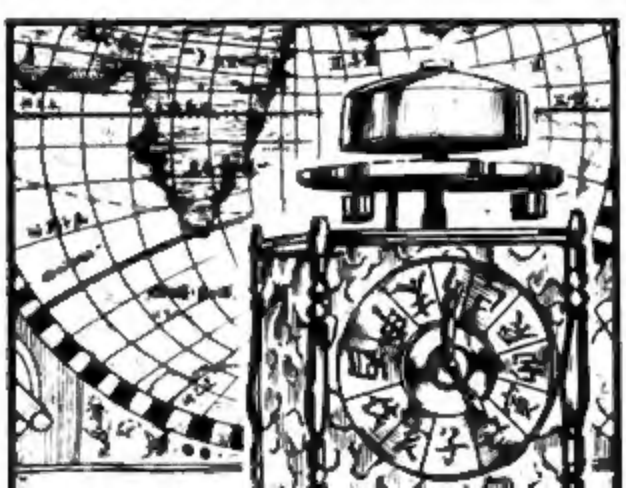
I-I'LL BE THERE !!
WELL, SINCE YOU'RE STRICTLY PROHIBITED FROM ANY SOCIAL MINGLING WITH EUROPEANS... BUT I WON'T FORCE YOU IF YOU'RE NOT INTERESTED.
ガツ
B-BUT, SENSEI! HOW KIN I...
かーん かーん かーん かーん
ぴょん
GLAD YOU COULD MAKE IT. COME ON UP HERE, IF YOU WOULD.
がらがら

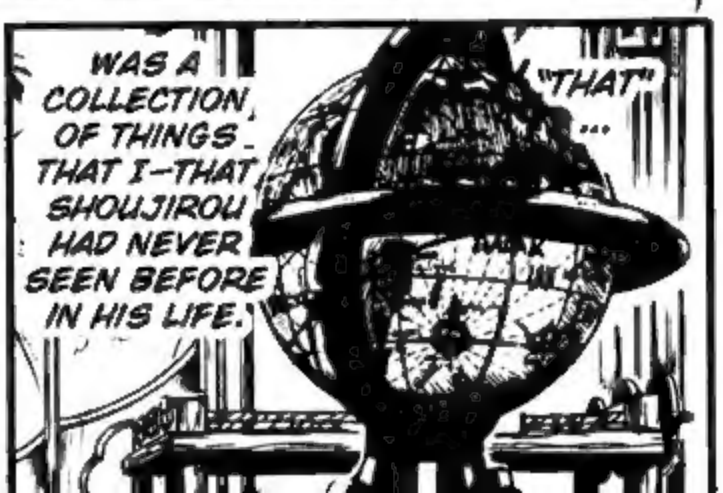
* 12 PM TO 1 PM

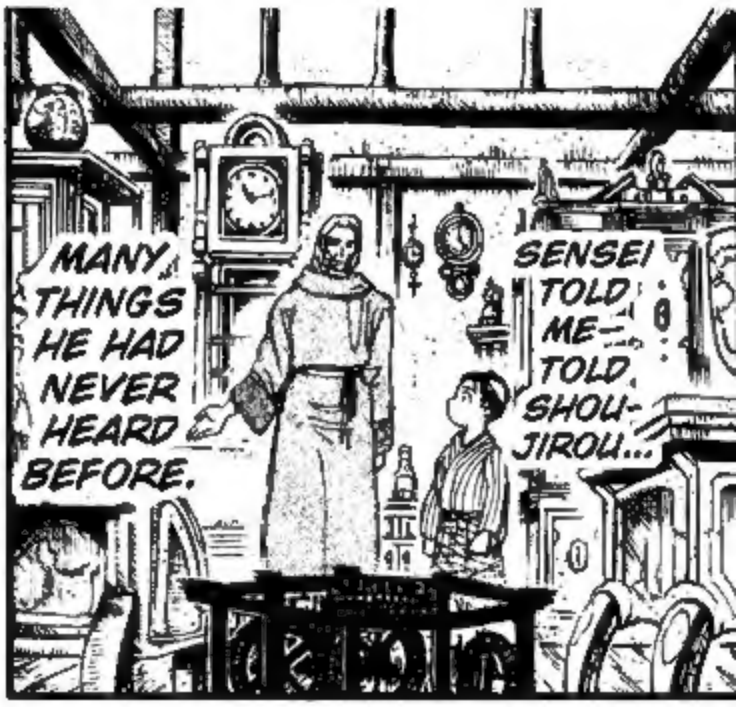

DON'T WORRY. THOSE ARMED GUARDS ARE IN THE BUILDING NEXT DOOR.
FROM THE NINTH HOUR OF DAY TO THE EIGHTH, EVERYONE ELSE LEAVES WHILE I TAKE MY AFTERNOON NAP.

SENSEI ...?

TAKE A GOOD LOOK, SHOUJI-ROU.
THIS IS THE WORLD.




WAS A COLLECTION, OF THINGS THAT I-THAT SHOUJIROU HAD NEVER SEEN BEFORE IN HIS LIFE.
"THAT" ...

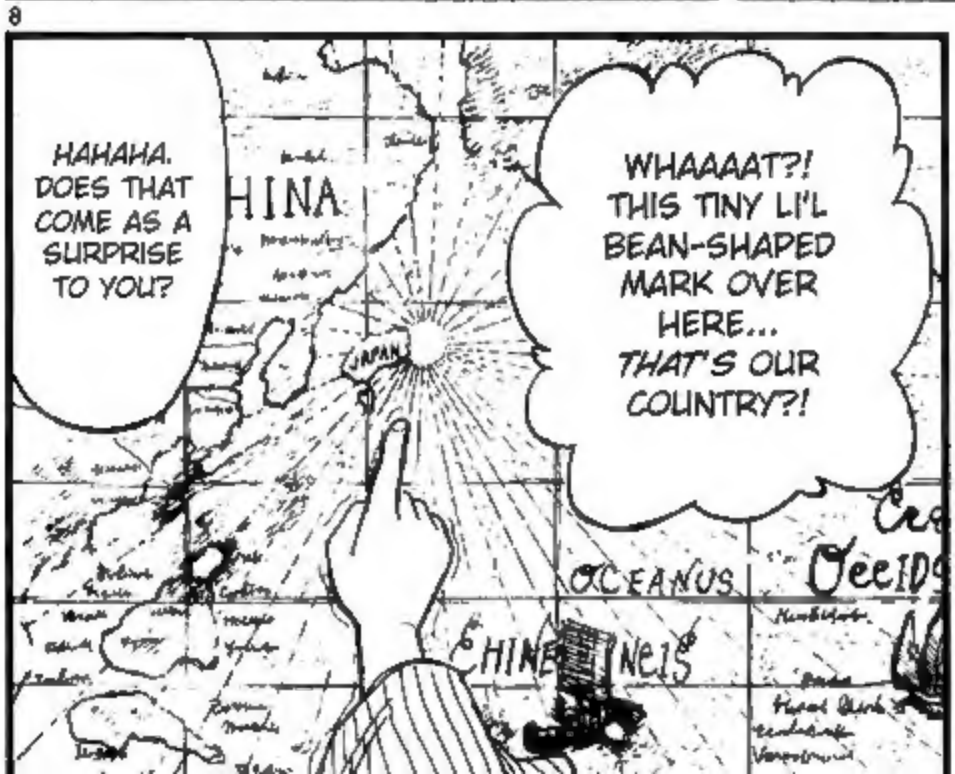


A NEW CURTAIN WAS LIFTED IN FRONT OF ME—IN FRONT OF SHOUJIROU.

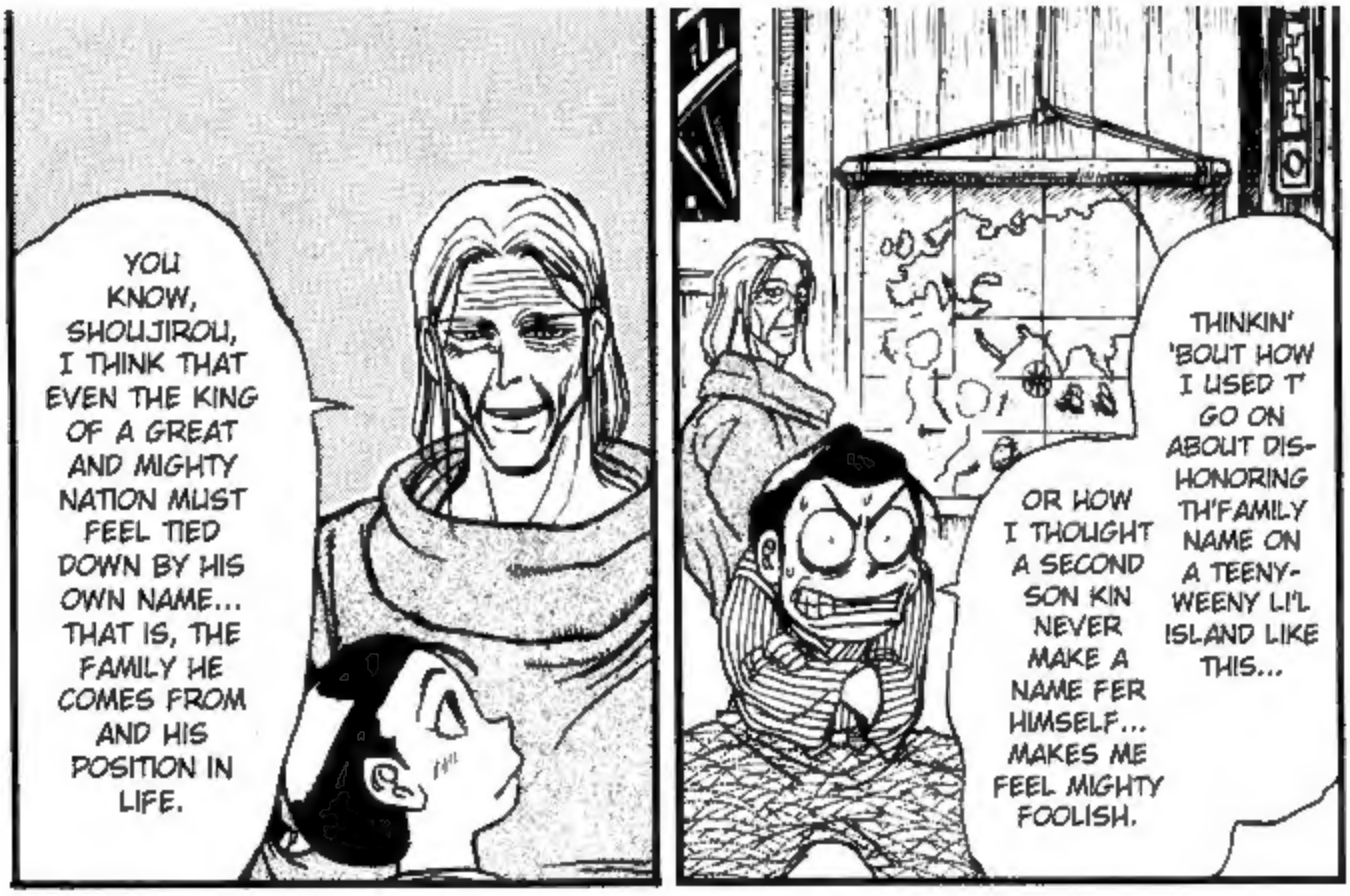
AFTER THAT, IT WAS AS IF, EVERY DAY...

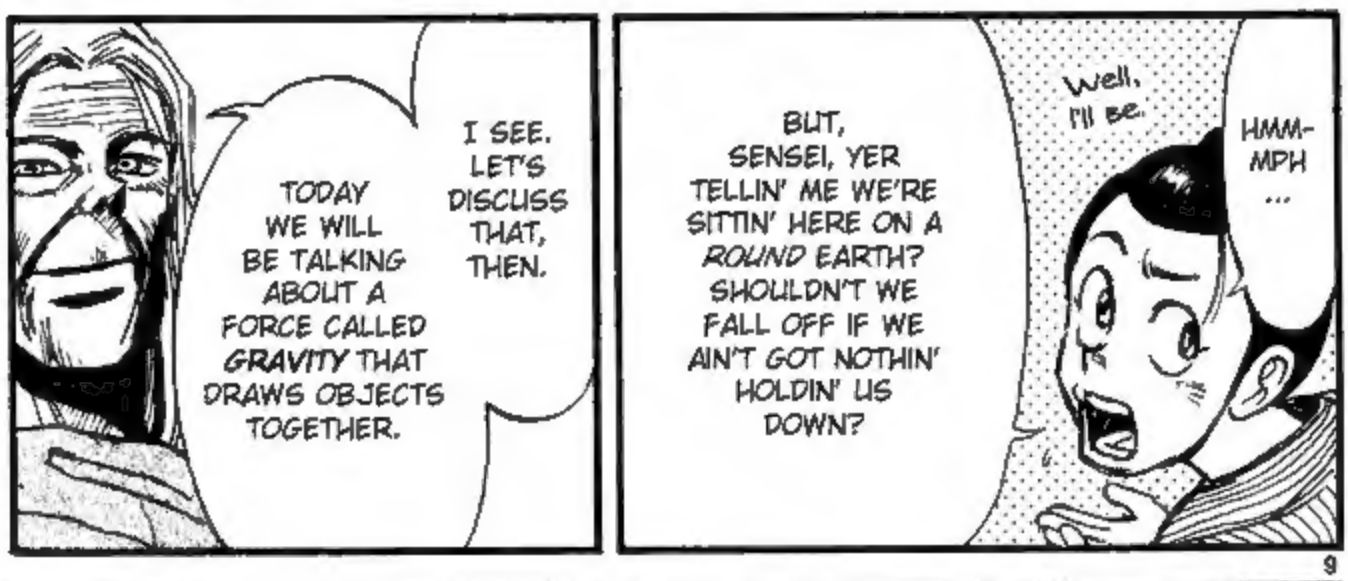
I WOULD— SHOUJIROU WOULD MAKE HIS WAY TO THE CLINIC, WHERE HE LEARNED MANY NEW THINGS FROM SENSEI.
EVERY DAY, AT THE NINTH HOUR...

8



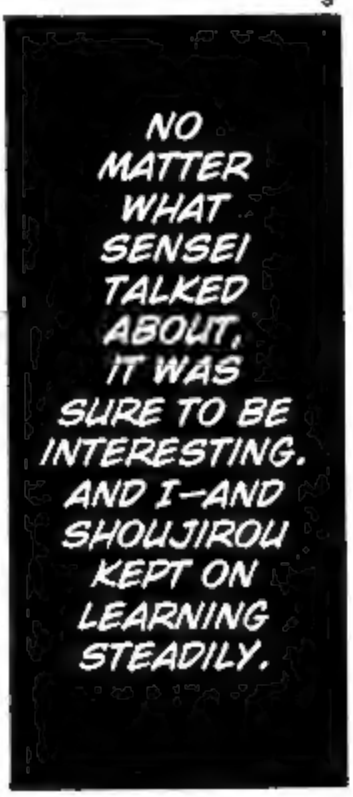
THAT WAS A VERY SERIOUS CRIME, OF COURSE. BUT MY—BUT SHOUJIROU'S THIRST FOR KNOWLEDGE COULDN'T BE STOPPED.


YOU KNOW, SHOUJIROU, I THINK THAT EVEN THE KING OF A GREAT AND MIGHTY NATION MUST FEEL TIED DOWN BY HIS OWN NAME... THAT IS, THE FAMILY HE COMES FROM AND HIS POSITION IN LIFE.
THINKIN' 'BOUT HOW I USED T' GO ON ABOUT DISHONORING TH'FAMILY NAME ON A TEENY-WEENY LI'L ISLAND LIKE THIS...
OR HOW I THOUGHT A SECOND SON KIN NEVER MAKE A NAME FER HIMSELF... MAKES ME FEEL MIGHTY FOOLISH.


I SEE. LET'S DISCUSS THAT, THEN.
TODAY WE WILL BE TALKING ABOUT A FORCE CALLED *GRAVITY* THAT DRAWS OBJECTS TOGETHER.
BUT, SENSEI, YER TELLIN' ME WE'RE SITTIN' HERE ON A *ROUND* EARTH? SHOULDN'T WE FALL OFF IF WE AIN'T GOT NOTHIN' HOLDIN' US DOWN?
HMM-MPH ...
Well, I'll be.

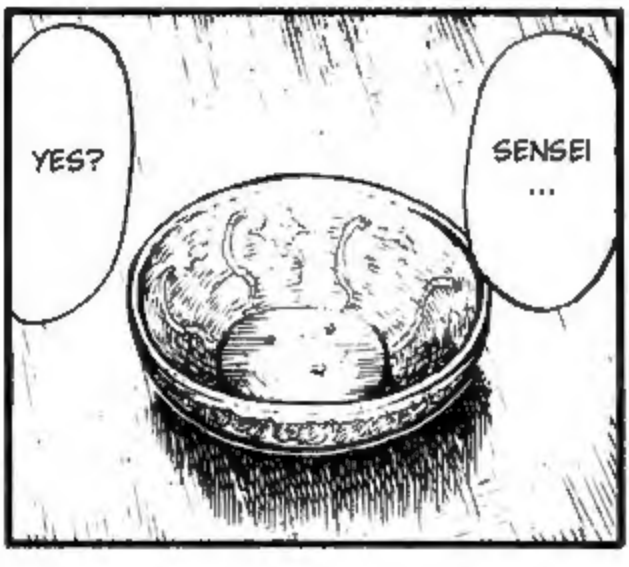
I ain't never tasted nothin' this good!
YUUMM!!!
YUUMM!!!

A "CASTAYLA", HUH? IT DON'T LOOK LIKE ALL THAT MUCH. PRETTY WEIRD-LOOKIN' KINDA FOOD—
THAT'S A KIND OF SWEET FROM PORTUGAL. TRY EATING IT.
ぱく
It seems the shogunate didn't bother banning that.


NO MATTER WHAT SENSEI TALKED ABOUT, IT WAS SURE TO BE INTERESTING. AND I—AND SHOUJIROU KEPT ON LEARNING STEADILY.

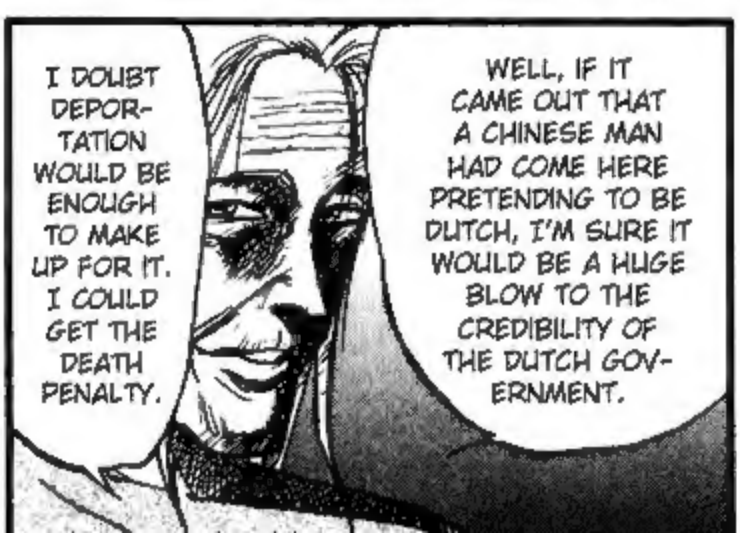
I SEE...

AN' YA TOLD ME, "JACOB INN AIN'T MY REAL NAME."
WHEN WE FIRST MET, Y'SHOWED ME THERE'S SOME GLASS YA USE T'CHANGE TH' COLOR A' YER EYES.

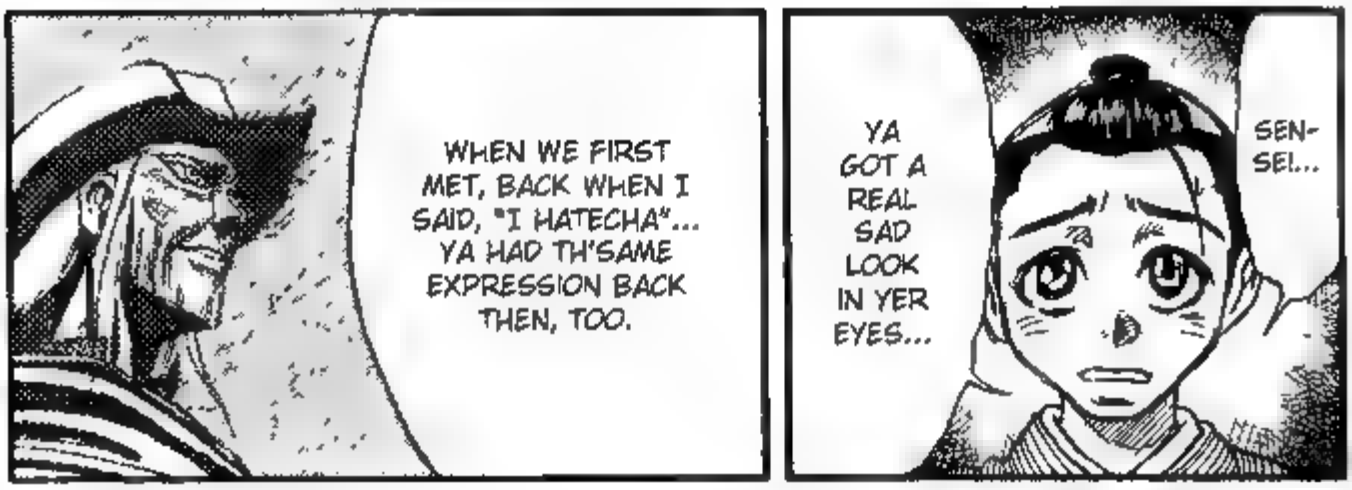

YES?
SENSEI ...

I WANTED TO GO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH.
HOW-EVER... MY APO-LOGIES TO YOU, BUT...
I-IF YA KNEW ALL THAT... WHY'DJA NEED T' COME T' JAPAN, ANYWAY?

S-SO THEN... AIN'TCHA BEEN COMMITTIN' A TERRIBLE CRIME THIS WHOLE TIME?!
THAT'S RIGHT. BAI YIN IS MY REAL NAME.


I DOUBT DEPOR-TATION WOULD BE ENOUGH TO MAKE UP FOR IT. I COULD GET THE DEATH PENALTY.
WELL, IF IT CAME OUT THAT A CHINESE MAN HAD COME HERE PRETENDING TO BE DUTCH, I'M SURE IT WOULD BE A HUGE BLOW TO THE CREDIBILITY OF THE DUTCH GOV-ERNMENT.

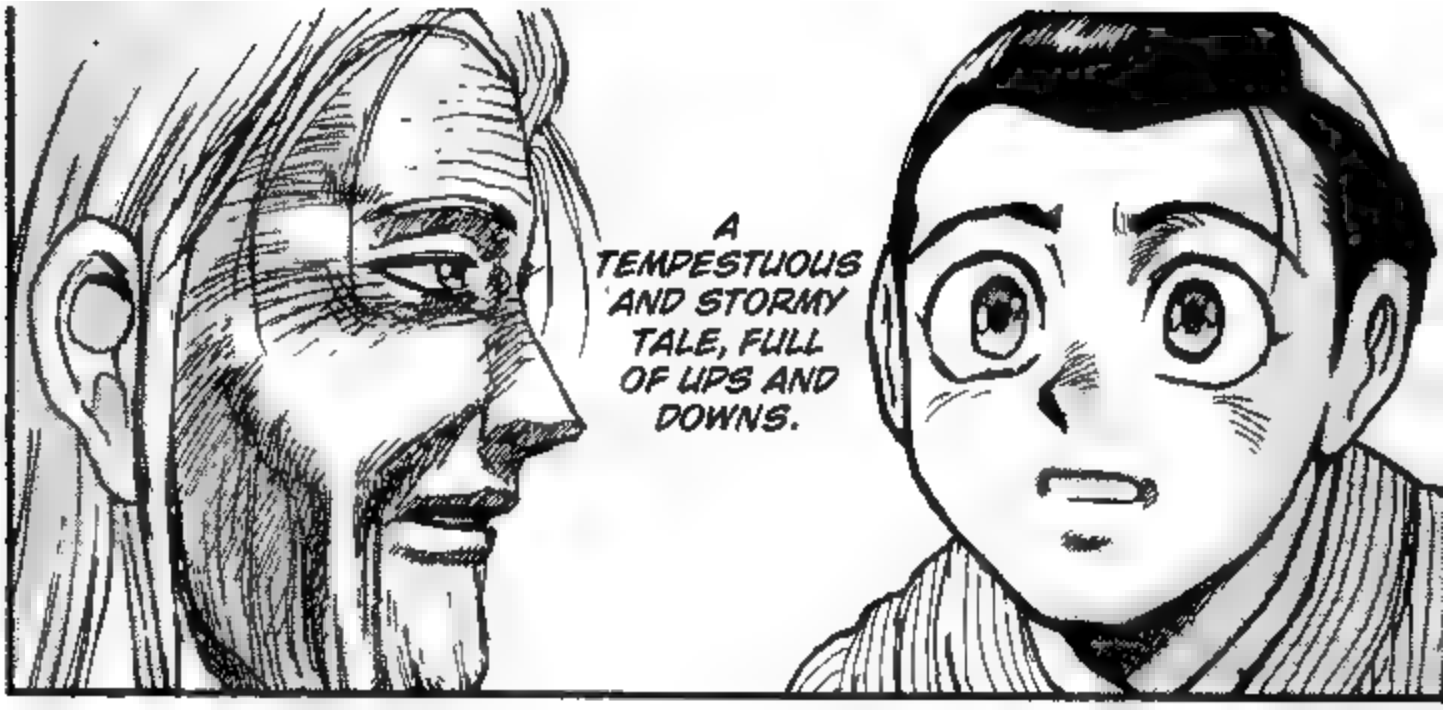
ANY OTHER COUNTRY WOULD HAVE DONE JUST AS WELL.


WHEN WE FIRST MET, BACK WHEN I SAID, "I HATECHA"... YA HAD TH'SAME EXPRESSION BACK THEN, TOO.
YA GOT A REAL SAD LOOK IN YER EYES...
SEN-SEI...

WHAT HAPPENED T'GIVE YA THOSE SAD EYES, AND MAKE YA FEEL LIKE YA HAD T' COME HERE?
WHAT HAPPENED TO YA?

11

AND THEN SENSEI STARTED TO TELL THE STORY.
LISTEN CLOSELY, SHOUJI-ROU.
THAT'S NOT IT. NOBODY HAS EVER ASKED ME THAT BEFORE. I SUPPOSE THIS IS A GOOD OPPORTUNITY TO TELL SOMEONE.
NO...
S-SORRY... I SHOULDN'TA SAID THAT.

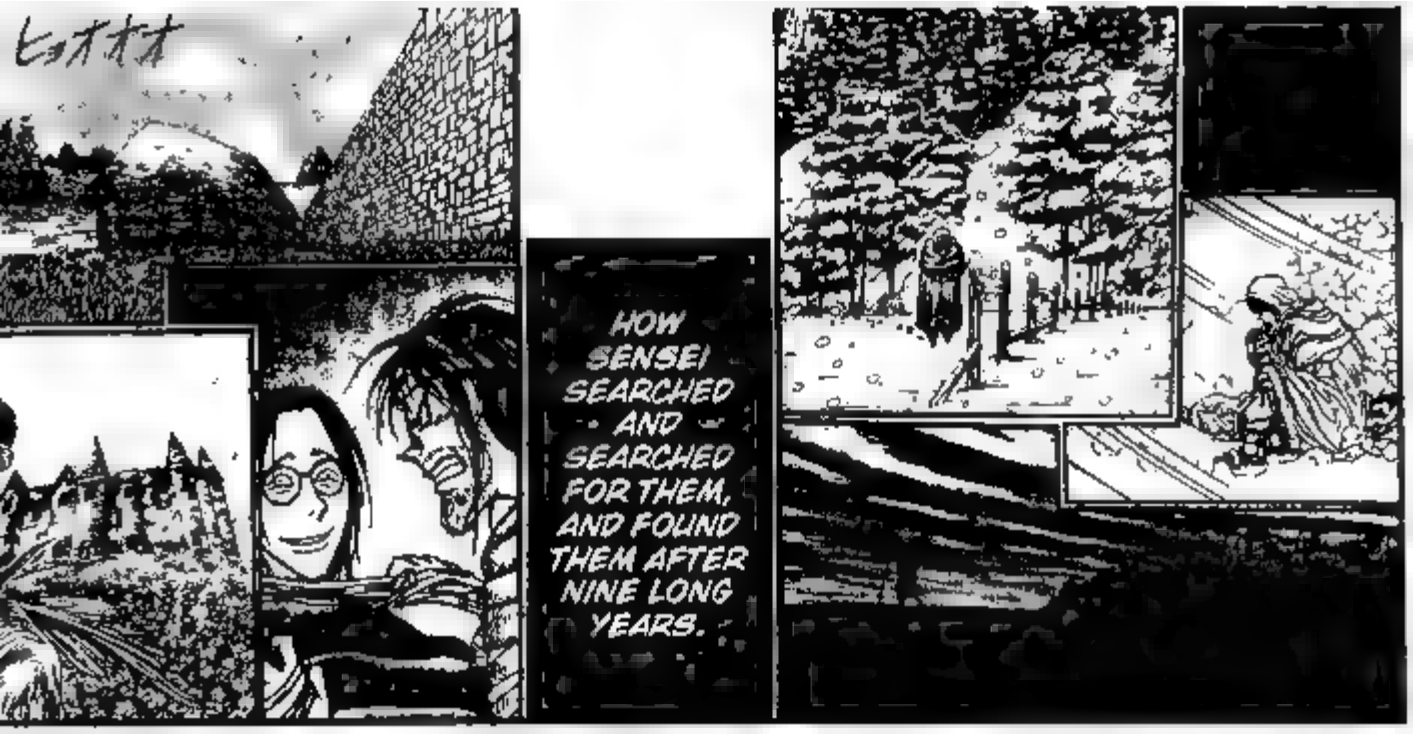

A TEMPESTUOUS AND STORMY TALE, FULL OF UPS AND DOWNS.

ABOUT HOW HE WAS BORN IN THE COUNTRY OF CHINA, WITH A YOUNGER BROTHER NAMED BAI JIN.

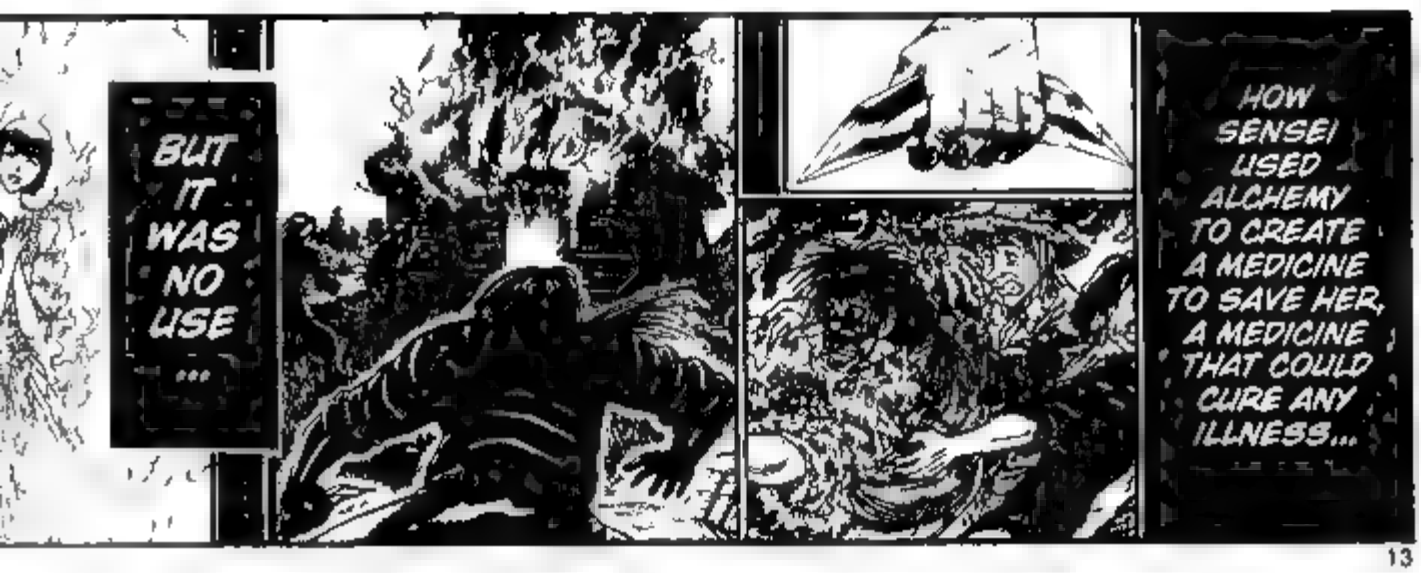
HOW THE TWO OF THEM JOURNEYED TO A DISTANT LAND CALLED PRAGUE, HOPING TO CREATE PUPPETS THAT WERE MORE LIKE HUMANS.

12

HOW HIS BROTHER, WHO ALSO LOVED FRANCINE, KIDNAPPED HER AND FLED.
HOW, IN THAT FOREIGN COUNTRY, SENSEI FELL IN LOVE WITH A WOMAN NAMED FRANCINE.


HOW SENSEI SEARCHED AND SEARCHED FOR THEM, AND FOUND THEM AFTER NINE LONG YEARS.

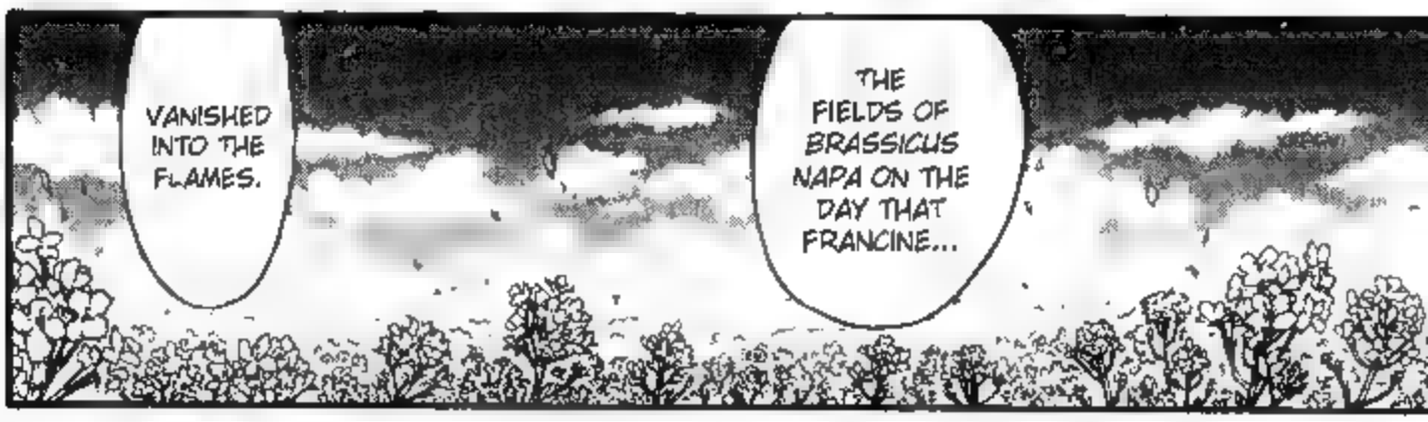
AND HOW, WHEN HE MET HER AGAIN IN THE LITTLE FRENCH VILLAGE OF KROHG, FRANCINE HAD FALLEN SERIOUSLY ILL AND BEEN LOCKED UP ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF TOWN.


BUT IT WAS NO USE ...
HOW SENSEI USED ALCHEMY TO CREATE A MEDICINE TO SAVE HER, A MEDICINE THAT COULD CURE ANY ILLNESS...

13

...ALL OF THAT, HE TOLD ME—TOLD SHOUJIROU.
AND HOW, AFTER PARTING FROM HIS BROTHER BAI JIN IN KROHG VILLAGE, SENSEI WANDERED AND WANDERED, WITH NO AIM IN SIGHT.

CAME TO TRUST ME AS THEIR DOCTOR... WHENEVER I WAS IDLE, I REMEMBERED SOMETHING.
AND I DRIFTED FROM FRANCE TO HOLLAND. BUT NO MATTER HOW MANY OF THAT COUNTRY'S POLITICIANS OR NOBLES...
25 YEARS HAVE PASSED SINCE THEN.


VANISHED INTO THE FLAMES.
THE FIELDS OF *BRASSICUS NAPA* ON THE DAY THAT FRANCINE...

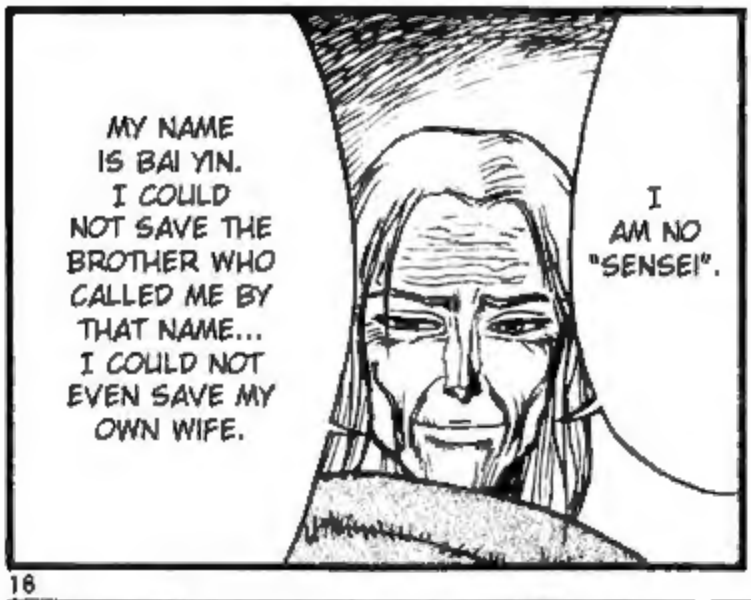
SENSEI, ARE YA SAYIN'... Y'AIN'T GOT NO OTHER DREAMS AT ALL?
...THAT'S IT. THAT WAS MY ONLY REASON.
LEARNED THE LANGUAGE AND EVERYTHING ELSE—ALL OF IT SO I COULD FORGET THAT DAY.
IN ORDER TO COME HERE, I CHANGED THE COLOR OF MY SKIN AND EYES, LIED TO THE DUTCH GOVERNMENT...
IT WAS NOT TO DO GOOD DEEDS THAT I CAME TO YOUR COUNTRY.

WHA ...?
THERE IS *THAT*, I SUPPOSE.
AH, THAT'S RIGHT.

MY BROTHER'S GOAL AND MINE, ORIGINALLY ...
WAS TO CREATE PUPPETS THAT COULD BE MADE TO MOVE JUST LIKE HUMAN BEINGS.
A PUPPET?!
AGH!!
I AM TOO DIFFERENT NOW FROM THE MAN I USED TO BE.
I WILL TRY AGAIN TO COMPLETE IT HERE, I THOUGHT... BUT I COULD NOT.

I AM... FINISHED AS A PERSON.

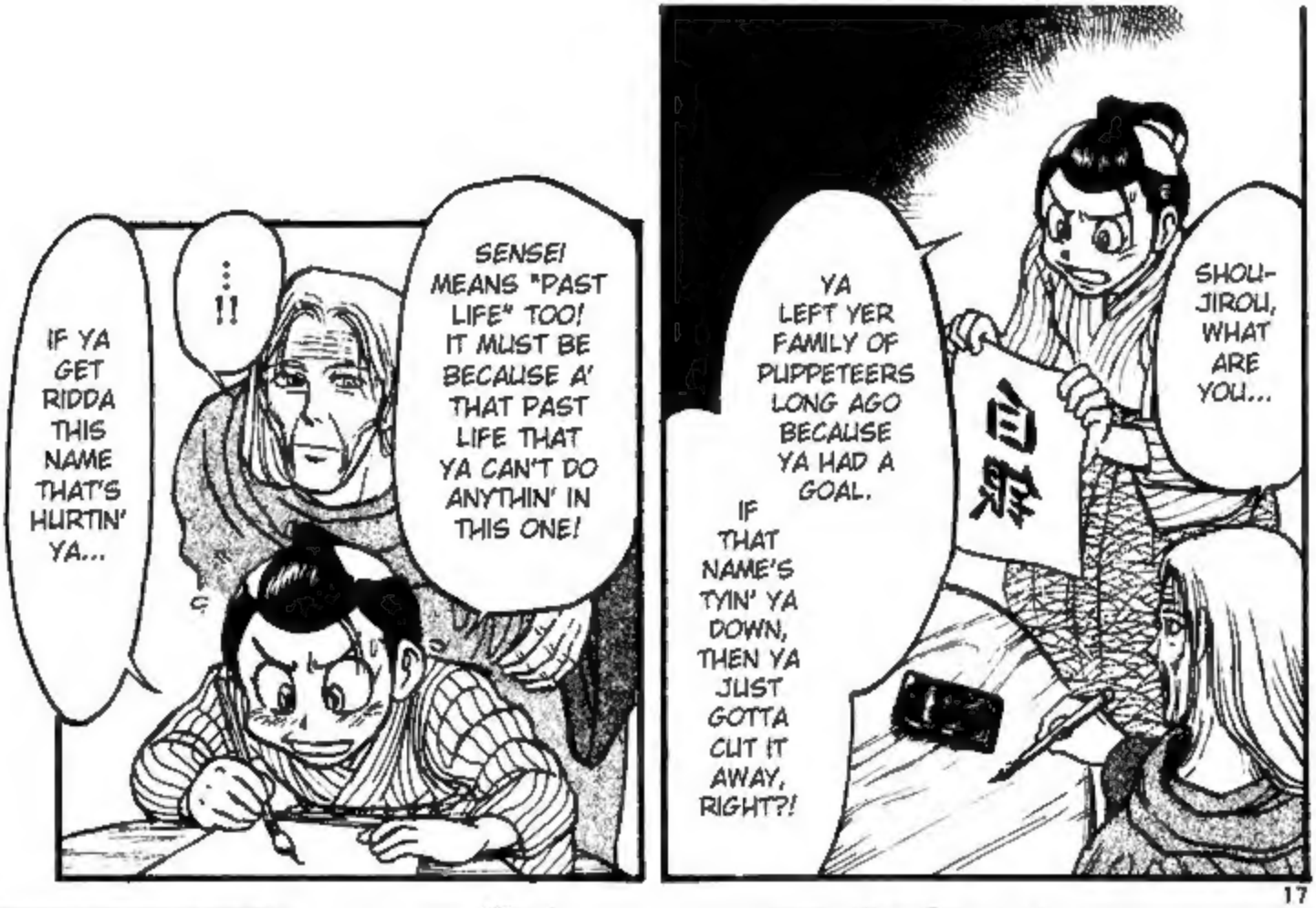
YA AIN'T FINISHED, SENSEI! NOT ONE BIT!


MY NAME IS BAI YIN. I COULD NOT SAVE THE BROTHER WHO CALLED ME BY THAT NAME... I COULD NOT EVEN SAVE MY OWN WIFE.
I AM NO "SENSEI".

YER CURIN' ILLNESS AN' SAVIN' PEOPLE, AIN'TCHA?!

白銀

WELL, THEN...! YA WRITE YER NAME LIKE THIS, DON'TCHA?
かちゃ
かちゃ


SHOU-JIROU, WHAT ARE YOU...
自食
YA LEFT YER FAMILY OF PUPPETEERS LONG AGO BECAUSE YA HAD A GOAL.
IF THAT NAME'S TYIN' YA DOWN, THEN YA JUST GOTTA CUT IT AWAY, RIGHT?!
SENSE! MEANS "PAST LIFE" TOO! IT MUST BE BECAUSE A' THAT PAST LIFE THAT YA CAN'T DO ANYTHIN' IN THIS ONE!
!!
IF YA GET RIDDA THIS NAME THAT'S HURTIN' YA...

TEXT:
SHI RO GA NE

BUT ONE YEAR LATER, TWO GREAT TRAGEDIES WERE TO BEFALL ME— BEFALL SHOUJIROU.

ONE OF THEM... WAS BEING PARTED FROM SENSEI.

SENSEI AND I— SENSEI AND SHOUJIROU WENT ON AFTER THAT AS SECRET TEACHER AND PUPIL. THOSE WERE TRULY HAPPY DAYS.

translation by funnuraba.tumblr.com

NOTES:

In the original text, the "voice-over" narration in this chapter is much more obviously Masaru speaking as if he were Shoujirou. Besides using standard Japanese instead of Saga-ben, the repeated "I--Shoujirou" is "*boku*--Shoujirou". Shoujirou uses the personal pronoun *washi* instead of Masaru's *boku*. (Shouji still uses *washi* in the present, but he no longer uses Saga-ben.)

pg. 9: Castella emerged during the 16th century, allegedly based on a cake introduced by Portuguese merchants. During the Edo period, it would have been very expensive to make, which is why Shoujirou hasn't seen it before.

pg. 16: Shoujirou writes 白银 in simplified Chinese characters. Bái Yín's name is usually written (including in dialogue in this chapter) in traditional characters, as 白銀.

These scanlations have been uploaded *only* to Batoto so that I can remove them if the series is ever licensed. Please read them there instead of on websites that rip them and watermark them to make a profit off your views!

Thanks to Judash137 on the mangafox forums for removing the Japanese text, and to the anonymous person who tipped me off to that!

Any group with more experience or skill is welcome to take over at any time or to redo chapters I have already done if they are below the quality that this series deserves.